

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 CPR-01 PM-04 SAM-01

NSC-05 USIA-06 OPR-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 /060 W

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P 240618Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BTRA, IS

SUBJ: VISIT OF MINISTER OF TRANSPORT GAD YAACOBI

1. DURING COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF TRANSPORT YAACOBI SEPT 22, HE SAID THAT HE PLANNED TO ATTEND OPENING OF NEW TERMINAL AT MONTREAL AIRPORT IN EARLY OCTOBER. WHILE IN NORTH AMERICAN, HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION COLEMAN AND WOULD MAKE QUICK TRIP TO WASHINGTON IF AN APPOINTMENT COULD BE ARRANGED ON OCT 6. HE WOULD THEN FLY TO CALIFORNIA TO VISIT WEST COAST AIR AND SEA PORT FACILITIES. HE SAID THAT HE HAS ASKED AMB DINITZ TO INQUIRE ABOUT SECRETARY COLEMAN'S AVAILABILITY, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN THIS REGARD.

2. YAACOBI SAID THAT HE COULD ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON ON OCT 5 AND BE AVAILABLE FOR A MEETING WITH SECRETARY COLEMAN ANY TIME ON MONDAY, OCT 6. IF THIS APPOINTMENT CANNOT BE ARRANGED, HE WOULD CANCEL HIS PLANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND MEET INSTEAD, PROBABLY IN NEW YORK, WITH DOT EXPERTS WHO CONDUCTED SURVEY OF ISRAELI TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS LAST JUNE.

3. WITH REGARD TO WEST COAST, YAACOBI PLANS TO ARRIVE IN LOS ANGELES ON OCT 7 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH LONG BEACH PORT AUTHORITY ABOUT CONTAINERIZATION, MAINLY ON-LOADING AND OFF-
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LOADING FROM CONTAINER SHIPS. HE SAID THAT KNOWLEDGE THUS

OBTAINED WOULD BE USEFUL WITH RESPECT TO ISRAEL'S CURRENT PLANS FOR IMPROVING PORT FACILITIES AT ASHDOD AND HAIFA. (ONE OF YAACOBI'S ASSISTANTS TOLD US THAT IF TIME PERMITTED, YAACOBI WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE BART SYSTEM IN SAN FRANCISCO AND VISIT PACECO CORP IN ALAMEDA.)

4. AFTER LOS ANGELES YAACOBI PLANS TO GO TO SEATTLE FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH BOEING EXECUTIVES. NOTING THAT ISRAEL IS ONE OF BOEINGS QUOTE MOST IMPORTANT CLIENTS UNQUOTE, YAACOBI INDICATED THAT HE WISHES TO RAISE EL AL'S INTEREST IN ACQUIRING ANOTHER BOEING 747.

5. COMMENT: I HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR SECRETARY COLEMAN TO MEET WITH YAACOBI. AS MINISTER OF TRANSPORT HE HAS KEY DECISION-MAKING ROLE WITH REGARD MAJOR PURCHASES OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT FROM ABROAD.ANY ASSISTANCE WASHINGTON AGENCIES CAN EXTEND TO ISRAELI EMBASSY IN HELPING TO ARRANGE HIS WEST COAST PROGRAM WILL ALSO BE APPRECIATED.
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